

Amendments to the Specification

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 4, line 2, with the following amended paragraph:

A network device for sampling a packet is described. An input interface receives a number of packets. The input interface has at least one input port. At least one input port is configured to sample a packet and transmit a sampled input packet ~~packet~~ a packet to a processor of the network device. The network device also includes an output interface for transmitting a plurality of packets. Likewise, the output interface has at least one output port. One of the output ports is configured to sample at least one output packet and transmit a sampled output packet to the processor. The network device also incorporates a switching fabric coupled to the input interface and the output interface. This switching fabric is configured to transmit a packet between the input interface and the output interface.